AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 4, 1997

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997-98 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1291

Introduced by Assembly Member Strom-Martin

February 28, 1997

An act to amend—Section Sections 17053.66, 23221, 23666, and 24343 of, and to add Sections 17271.5 and 24443.5 to, the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to taxation, to take effect immediately, tax levy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1291, as amended, Strom-Martin. Personal income and bank and corporation taxes: federal conformity: *credits*.

Personal Income Tax Law and the Bank and Corporation Tax Law authorize various credits against the taxes imposed by those laws including a credit, for taxable and income years beginning before January 1, 2000, in an amount equal to the lesser of 10% of the qualified costs paid or incurred by a taxpayer or partnership, as specified, or an amount determined by a specified formula for salmon and trout improvement habitat restoration and projects, as specified. Existing law limits the credit amount that may be granted with respect to any taxable or income year to any taxpayer or partnership to \$50,000 and provides that the total aggregate amount of credits granted under those provisions may not exceed \$500,000 per year.

This bill would extend the operation of those credits to taxable and income years beginning before January 1, 2002,

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would increase the allowable credit from 10% to 25%, if lesser than the amount determined by the formula, in the case of a taxpayer who is not an industrial timber operator, would increase the credit amount that may be granted with respect to any taxable or income year to any taxpayer to \$500,000, and would increase the total aggregate amount of credits that may be granted to \$5,000,000 per year. This bill would make other technical changes to those credit provisions.

The Personal Income Tax Law and the Bank and Corporation Tax Law, by reference to specified federal statutes, conform to various provisions of federal income tax law.

This bill would, for taxable and income years beginning on or after January 1, 1997, provide *full or partial* conformity to certain federal income tax laws relating to the elimination of the deduction for *fees for* membership in any club organized for business, pleasure, recreation, or other social purpose, and the disallowance of the deduction for employee remuneration that exceeds \$1,000,000 in the case of a publicly held corporation, as specified.

The Bank and Corporation Tax Law provides, for income years commencing on or after January 1, 1997, that the amount of the prepaid minimum franchise tax for a qualified new corporation, as defined, is \$600, unless that corporation's gross receipts or tax liability, as specified, exceeds certain amounts, in which case that corporation is subject, as provided, to additional tax in the amount of \$200.

This bill would instead provide, for income years commencing on or after January 1, 1998, that the amount of the prepaid minimum franchise tax for a qualified new corporation, as defined, is \$200, and that the additional tax to which that corporation is subject if its gross receipts or tax liability, as specified, exceeds certain amounts, is \$500.

By limiting deductions, this bill would result in a change in state taxes for the purpose of increasing state revenues within the meaning of Section 3 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution, and thus would require for passage the approval of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the membership of each house of the Legislature.

This bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy.

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Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$ majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 17053.66 of the Revenue and 1 Taxation Code is amended to read:

17053.66. (a) (1) For each taxable year beginning on 3 or after January 1, 1995, and before January 1, 2000 2002, there shall be allowed, as determined by the Department of Fish and Game, a credit against the "net tax," as defined in Section 17039. The credit amount shall be equal to the lesser of 10 percent the qualified percentage of the qualified costs paid or incurred by the taxpayer-or 10 partnership salmon and steelhead trout for habitat 11 restoration and improvement projects or an amount 12 determined in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) subdivision (f). The credit allowed by this section shall be claimed on the return for the taxable year in which the expense for the habitat restoration or improvement project was paid or incurred. 16

- 17 (2) For purposes this section, "qualified percentage" means either: 18
- (A) In the case of a taxpayer who is an industrial 20 timber operator, 10 percent.
 - (B) In the case of any other taxpayer, 25 percent.

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- (b) The taxpayer—or partnership shall be eligible to claim the credit only after application to and certification by the Department of Fish and Game that all of the following conditions are met:
- 25 (1) The salmon or steelhead trout habitat restoration 27 or improvement project meets the objectives of the 28 Salmon, Steelhead Trout, and Anadromous Fisheries 29 Program Act (Chapter 8 (commencing with 30 6900) of Part 1 of Division 6 of the Fish and Game Code) and would aid in increasing the natural production of 31 salmon and steelhead trout through improvement of stream and streambank conditions, improvement of land 33

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- 1 (2) The work to be undertaken is not otherwise required to be carried out pursuant to the Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973 (Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 4511) of Part 2 of Division 4 of the Public 5 Resources Code), for mitigation of negative impacts to 6 environment caused by timber operations required for mitigation of negative impacts on fish and wildlife habitat caused by a project pursuant to 9 approved environmental impact report 10 negative declaration required pursuant to the California 11 Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing 12 with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
- (c) (1) Qualified costs are those costs paid or incurred 14 by the taxpayer—or partnership which are directly related to labor and materials which aid in increasing the natural 16 production of salmon and steelhead trout through 17 improvement of stream and streambank conditions. 18 improvement of land use practices, or changes streamflow operations.
 - (2) Qualified costs do not include costs incurred with respect to any of the following:
 - (A) Construction of office, storage, garage, or maintenance buildings.
 - (B) Drilling wells or installation of pumping equipment.
 - (C) Construction of permanent hatchery facilities, including raceways, water systems, or bird enclosures.
 - (D) Construction of permanent surface roadways bridges.
- 30 requiring engineered (E) Any project design or 31 certification by a registered engineer.
- (3) Qualified costs shall be no greater than prevailing costs for similar work completed in the area where the proposed, and the project design project is and 35 implementation shall follow Department of Fish and 36 Game guidelines.
- (d) For purposes of computing the credit provided by 37 38 this section, the cost of any salmon or steelhead trout habitat restoration or improvement project eligible for the credit shall be reduced by the amount of any grant or

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cost-share payment provided by a public entity for that project. The Department of Fish and Game shall certify the amount of funding, if any, provided by Department of Fish and Game for the project.

(e) The taxpayer—or partnership shall do all of the following:

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- (1) (A) Submit an application for the restoration tax credit with a description of the proposed project in a format acceptable to the Department of Fish and Game.
- (B) The application for the restoration tax credit shall include all information that is required Department of Fish and Game, pursuant to subdivision (b), as well as, but not limited to, all of the following:
- (i) A project description of the habitat restoration or 15 improvement work to be accomplished, including the location of the project.
 - (ii) If other than the project applicant, the name of the owner of the land where the project is to be carried out.
 - (iii) The estimated qualified cost to accomplish the project, as well as the project's overall estimated cost.
 - (iv) A statement that a reasonable attempt will be made to hire unemployed persons previously employed in the commercial fishing or forest products industries for implementation of the project.
 - (v) The tax identification number of each taxpayer allowed the credit.
 - (2) Obtain from the Department of Fish and Game certification that the project is approved, and the amount of credit allocation authorized, which shall not exceed the maximum amount of credit allocation set forth in subdivision (k).
 - (3) Notify the Department of Fish and Game in a form and manner specified by the department that the habitat restoration or improvement work was actually completed and the amount of qualified costs that were paid.
- (4) Provide access, subject to prior notification by the Department of Fish and Game staff and permission by 37 proposed project the taxpayer, to sites bv the Department of Fish and Game staff for preproject and postproject evaluation, for project monitoring during all

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phases implementation, and for verification of that projects have been completed in accordance with 3 department guidelines and recommendations. The Department of Fish and Game shall not include a project on its list of approved projects eligible for the tax credit that is submitted to the Franchise Tax Board unless these conditions are met.

- (5) Retain a copy of and make the certification referred to in paragraph (3) of subdivision (f) available 10 to the Franchise Tax Board upon demand.
- (6) Calculate the credit amount, equal to the lesser of 12 10 percent the qualified percentage of the taxpayer's actual qualified costs or the amount of credit allocation authorized to the taxpayer, as determined Department of Fish and Game.
 - (7) A partnership shall disclose in its partnership return for the taxable year all of the following:
 - (A) The name of each partner who received a distributive share of the credit.
 - (B) Each partner's social security number or identification number.
 - (C) Each partner's distributive share of the credit.
 - (f) The Department of Fish and Game shall do all of the following:
 - (1) Accept and review applications to determine if projects meet the conditions specified in subdivision (b).
 - (2) After all applications have been received for a calendar year, determine if 10 percent the qualified percentage of the estimated costs for all approved projects exceeds the annual credit allocation. If annual amount of credit allocation is exceeded, amount of each taxpayer's credit allocation shall be calculated as follows:
- 34 (A) Divide the annual amount of credit allocation set 35 forth in subdivision (j) by the qualified percentage the 36 total estimated qualified costs for all approved projects.
- approved (B) Multiply 37 each project's estimated qualified cost by the quotient of the calculation in 38 subparagraph (A).

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(C) If the annual amount of credit allocation is not exceeded, the amount of each credit allocation shall be 10 percent the qualified percentage of the estimated qualified costs.

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- (3) Issue certificates to each taxpayer—or partnership with an approved project that specifies the amount of credit allocated to the project.
- (4) Provide an annual listing to the Franchise Tax 9 Board (preferably on magnetic tape 10 machine-readable form, and in a form and manner agreed upon by the Franchise Tax Board and the 12 Department of Fish and Game) of the taxpayers—or partnerships who were issued the certification, their 14 respective tax identification numbers, and the allowable amount of the credit allocated to each taxpayer—or 16 partnership.
- (g) The Department of Fish and Game shall have the 18 authority to establish annual timeframes for the receipt of applications.
- (h) The taxpayers' social security numbers 21 identification numbers obtained through the tax credit application and certification process shall be exclusively for state tax administrative purposes.
- (i) In the case where the credit allowed by this section 25 exceeds the "net tax," the excess may be carried over to reduce the "net tax" in the following year, and succeeding years if necessary, until the credit has been exhausted.
- (i) For purposes of this section, the annual amount of 30 credit allocation means the aggregate amount of tax 31 credits which may be granted pursuant to this section and 32 Section 23666 shall not exceed five hundred thousand five 33 *million* dollars (\$500,000) (\\$5,000,000) per year. The 34 Department of Fish and Game shall not authorize any 35 credit which would cause the total amount of credits 36 authorized with respect to any calendar year under this section and Section 23666 to exceed five hundred thousand five million dollars (\$500,000) (\$5,000,000).
- 39 maximum credit amount which the 40 Department of Fish and Game may authorize with

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respect to any taxable year to any taxpayer-or partnership is fifty is five hundred thousand dollars—(\$50,000) 3 (\$500,000).

- (1) In the case of a partnership, the credit limitation specified in subdivision (k) shall apply with respect to the partnership and with respect to each partner.
- (m) This section shall remain in effect only until December 1, $\frac{2000}{2002}$, and as of that date is repealed.
- 9 SEC. 2. Section 17271.5 is added to the Revenue and 10 Taxation Code, to read:
- 17271.5. For (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), for each taxable year beginning on or after January 12 1, 1997, the amendments made to Section 274 of the 14 Internal Revenue Code by Section 13210 of the Revenue 15 Reconciliation Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-66), relating to 16 elimination of deduction for club membership fees, shall 17 apply with respect to that portion of fees that exceed five 18 hundred dollars (\$500).

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- (b) Section 274(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code is 21 modified by substituting "no deduction in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500)" in lieu of "no deduction."
- 23 SEC. 3. Section 23221 of the Revenue and Taxation 24 *Code is amended to read:*
- 23221. (a) Except as provided under subdivision (b), 26 a corporation which incorporates under the laws of this state or qualifies to transact intrastate business in this 28 state shall thereupon prepay the minimum tax provided 29 in Section 23153, except that any credit union shall thereupon prepay a tax of twenty-five dollars (\$25). The prepayment shall be made to the Secretary of State with the filing of the articles of incorporation or the statement and designation by foreign corporation. The Secretary of 34 State shall transmit the amount of the prepayment to the 35 Franchise Tax Board. The Franchise Tax Board shall 36 certify to the Secretary of State on an individual or class 37 basis those domestic or foreign corporations which are 38 exempt from prepayment or for which prepayment to

the Secretary of State is waived.

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(b) (1) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 1997, and before January 1, 1998, the amount payable by a qualified new corporation under subdivision (a) shall be six hundred dollars (\$600).

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- (2) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 1998, the amount payable by a qualified new corporation under subdivision (a) shall be two hundred dollars (\$200).
- (c) For purposes of this section, "qualified 10 corporation" corporation means a that reasonably estimates that, for the income year, it will have both gross 12 receipts, less returns and allowances reportable to this state, of less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) or less, 14 and a tax liability under Section 23151 that does not exceed eight hundred dollars (\$800).
- determination receipts (1) The of gross 17 corporation, for purposes of this section, shall be made by 18 including the gross receipts of each member of the commonly controlled group, as defined in Section 25105, of which the bank or corporation is a member.
- receipts, (2) "Gross less returns and 22 reportable to this state" means the sum of the gross 23 receipts from the production of business income, as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 25120, and the gross receipts from the production of nonbusiness income, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 25120.
 - (d) (1) Subdivision (b) shall not apply corporation if that will be a subsidiary of another corporation upon the issuance of its stock.
 - (2) For purposes of this subdivision, "subsidiary" means a corporation of which 50 percent or more of its stock is owned by another corporation.
- (e) (1) For income years commencing on or after 34 January 1, 1997, and before January 1, 1998, if a corporation paid six hundred dollars (\$600) 36 subdivision (b), but for its first income year the corporation's tax liability under Section 23151 exceeds eight hundred dollars (\$800), or the corporation's gross determined under paragraph subdivision (c), exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000),

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an additional tax in the amount equal to of two hundred dollars (\$200) shall be due and payable by the corporation on the due date of its return, without regard to extension, for its first income year.

(2) For income years commencing on or after January 1, 1998, if a corporation paid three hundred dollars (\$300) under subdivision (b), but for its first income year the corporation's tax liability under Section 23151 exceeds eight hundred dollars (\$800), or the corporation's gross determined under paragraph 10 receipts. subdivision (c), exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000), an additional tax in the amount of five hundred dollars 13 (\$500) shall be due and payable by the corporation on the 14 due date of its return, without regard to extension, for its 15 first income year.

SEC. 4. Section 23666 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

23666. (a) (1) For each income year beginning on or after January 1, 1995, and before January 1, 2000 2002, 19 there shall be allowed, as determined by the Department of Fish and Game, a credit against the "tax," as defined 22 in Section 23036. The credit amount shall be equal to the lesser of 10 percent the qualified percentage of the qualified costs paid or incurred by the taxpayer for trout 25 salmon and steelhead habitat restoration and 26 improvement projects or an amount determined in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (f). The credit allowed by this section shall be claimed on the return for the income year in which the expense for the habitat restoration or improvement project was paid or incurred.

- 32 (2) *For* of purposes this section. "qualified percentage" means either: 33
- 34 (A) In the case of a taxpayer who is an industrial 35 timber operator, 10 percent.
 - (B) In the case of any other taxpayer, 25 percent.
- (b) A taxpayer shall be eligible to claim the credit only 37 after application to and certification by the Department of Fish and Game that all of the following conditions are 40

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(1) The salmon or steelhead trout habitat restoration or improvement project meets the objectives of the Salmon. Steelhead Trout, and Anadromous Fisheries Program Act (Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 6900) of Part 1 of Division 6 of the Fish and Game Code) and would aid in increasing the natural production of salmon and steelhead trout through improvement of stream and streambank conditions, improvement of land use practices, or changes in streamflow operations.

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- (2) The work to be undertaken is not otherwise required to be carried out pursuant to the Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973 (Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 4511) of Part 2 of Division 4 of the Public 14 Resources Code), for mitigation of negative impacts to environment caused by timber operations 16 required for mitigation of negative impacts on fish and wildlife habitat caused by a project pursuant to an environmental impact report or negative declaration required pursuant to the California 20 Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
 - (c) (1) Qualified costs are those costs paid or incurred by the taxpayer which are directly related to labor and materials which aid in increasing the natural production of salmon and steelhead trout through improvement of stream and streambank conditions, improvement of land use practices, or changes in streamflow operations.
- 28 (2) Qualified costs do not include costs paid incurred with respect to any of the following: 29
 - (A) Construction of office, storage, garage, or maintenance buildings.
- 32 (B) Drilling wells or installation of pumping 33 equipment.
- 34 (C) Construction of permanent hatchery facilities, including raceways, water systems, or bird enclosures.
- (D) Construction of permanent surface roadways 36 37 bridges.
- 38 (E) Any project requiring engineered design or certification by a registered engineer.

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(3) Qualified costs shall be no greater than prevailing costs for similar work completed in the area where the project is proposed, and the project design implementation shall follow the Department of Fish and Game guidelines.

- (d) For purposes of computing the credit provided by this section, the cost of any salmon or steelhead trout habitat restoration or improvement project eligible for the credit shall be reduced by the amount of any grant or cost-share payment provided by a public entity for that project. The Department of Fish and Game shall certify 12 the amount of funding, if any, provided by the Department of Fish and Game for the project.
 - (e) The taxpayer shall do all of the following:
- (1) (A) Submit an application for the restoration tax 16 credit with a description of the proposed project in a format acceptable to the Department of Fish and Game.
- (B) The application for the restoration tax credit shall 19 include information required that is 20 Department of Fish and Game, pursuant to subdivision (b), as well as, but not limited to, all of the following:
- (i) A project description of the habitat restoration or 23 improvement work to be accomplished, including the location of the project.
 - (ii) If other than the project applicant, the name of the owner of the land where the project is to be carried out.
 - (iii) The estimated qualified cost to accomplish the project, as well as the project's overall estimated cost.
- (iv) A statement that a reasonable attempt will be made to hire unemployed persons previously employed 30 in the commercial fishing or forest products industries for implementation of the project.

The tax identification number of each taxpayer allowed 34 the credit.

(2) Obtain from the Department of Fish and Game 36 certification that the project is approved, and the amount of credit allocation authorized, which shall not exceed the maximum amount of credit allocation set subdivision (k).

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(3) Notify the Department of Fish and Game in a form and manner specified by the department that the habitat restoration or improvement work was actually completed and the amount of qualified costs that were paid.

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- (4) Provide access, subject to prior notification by the Department of Fish and Game staff and permission by taxpayer, to proposed project sites Department of Fish and Game staff for preproject and postproject evaluation, for project monitoring during all 10 phases of implementation, and for verification that projects have been completed in accordance with department guidelines and recommendations. The 13 Department of Fish and Game shall not include a project 14 on its list of approved projects eligible for the tax credit that is submitted to the Franchise Tax Board unless these 16 conditions are met.
- (5) Retain a copy of and make the certification 18 referred to in paragraph (3) of subdivision (f) available to the Franchise Tax Board upon demand.
 - (6) Calculate the credit amount, equal to the lesser of 10 percent the qualified percentage of the taxpayer's actual qualified costs or the amount of credit allocation authorized to the taxpayer, as determined by Department of Fish and Game.
 - (f) The Department of Fish and Game shall do all of the following:
 - (1) Accept and review applications to determine if projects meet the conditions specified in subdivision (b).
- (2) After all applications have been received for a determine if 10 percent the qualified calendar year, percentage of the estimated costs for all projects exceeds the annual credit allocation. If the annual amount of credit allocation is exceeded. the 34 amount of each taxpayer's credit allocation shall be calculated as follows:
- (A) Divide the annual amount of credit allocation set 36 37 forth in subdivision (j) by the qualified percentage the total estimated qualified costs for all approved projects.

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(B) Multiply each approved project's estimated qualified cost by the quotient of the calculation in subparagraph (A).

- (C) If the annual amount of credit allocation is not exceeded, the amount of each credit allocation shall be 10 percent the qualified percentage of the estimated qualified costs.
- (3) Issue certificates to each taxpayer or partnership with an approved project that specifies the amount of 10 credit allocated to the project.
- (4) Provide an annual listing to the Franchise Tax 12 Board (preferably magnetic on other tape or machine-readable form, and in a form and manner 14 agreed upon by the Franchise Tax Board and the 15 Department of Fish and Game) of the taxpayers—or 16 partnerships who were issued the certification, their respective tax identification numbers, and the allowable 18 amount of the credit allocated to each taxpayer—or partnership.
 - (g) The Department of Fish and Game shall have the authority to establish annual timeframes for the receipt of applications.
- (h) The taxpayers' identification numbers obtained 24 through the tax credit application and certification used exclusively process shall be for state administrative purposes.
- (i) In the case where the credit allowed by this section 28 exceeds the "tax," the excess may be carried over to reduce the "tax" in the following year, and succeeding years if necessary, until the credit has been exhausted.
- (j) For purposes of this section, the annual amount of 32 credit allocation means the aggregate amount of tax credits which may be granted pursuant to this section and 34 Section 17053.66 shall not exceed five hundred thousand 35 *five million* dollars—(\$500,000) (\$5,000,000) per year. The 36 Department of Fish and Game shall not authorize any 37 credit which would cause the total amount of credits 38 authorized with respect to any calendar year under this section and Section 17053.66 to exceed five hundred thousand five million dollars (\$500,000) (\$5,000,000).

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1 (k) The maximum credit amount which the 2 Department of Fish and Game may authorize with 3 respect to any income year to any taxpayer—or partnership 4 is fifty is five hundred thousand dollars—(\$50,000) 5 (\$500,000).

- (*l*) In the case of a partnership, the credit limitation specified in subdivision (k) shall apply with respect to the partnership and with respect to each partner.
- 9 (m) This section shall remain in effect only until 10 December 1, 2000 2002, and as of that date is repealed.
- 11 SEC. 5. Section 24343 of the Revenue and Taxation 12 Code is amended to read:
- 13 24343. (a) Section 162 of the Internal Revenue Code, 14 relating to trade or business expenses, shall apply, except 15 as otherwise provided.
- 16 (b) For purposes of applying Section 162 of the 17 Internal Revenue Code, any references to Section 170 of 18 the Internal Revenue Code shall be modified to refer to 19 Sections 24357 to 24359.1, inclusive, of this part.
- 20 (c) The amendments to Section 162 of the Internal 21 Revenue Code made by Section 13211 of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-66), relating to 23 disallowance of for deduction certain employee 24 remuneration in excess of one million dollars 25 (\$1,000,000), shall apply to income years beginning on or after January 1, 1997. 26
- 27 SEC. 3.

- 28 SEC. 6. Section 24443.5 is added to the Revenue and 29 Taxation Code, to read:
- 30 24443.5. For (a) Except as provided in subdivision
- 31 (b), for each income year beginning on or after January
- 32 1, 1997, the amendments made to Section 274 of the 33 Internal Revenue Code by Section 13210 of the Revenue
- 34 Reconciliation Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-66), relating to
- 35 elimination of deduction for club membership fees, shall
- 36 apply with respect to that portion of fees that exceed five
- 37 hundred dollars (\$500).
- 38 SEC. 4.

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- 1 (b) Section 274(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code is 2 modified by substituting "no deduction in excess of five 3 hundred dollars (\$500)" in lieu of "no deduction." 4 SEC. 7. This act provides for a tax levy within the
- 4 SEC. 7. This act provides for a tax levy within the 5 meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into 6 immediate effect.